

In fact

For The Millions Who Want a Free Press

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Now What in Europe?

Speculation and rumor agitate official Washington, in utter confusion since the collapse of France. Most realistic observers conclude:

1. The Daladier-Flandin-Laval-Pétain betrayal of France ends one phase of the war. Hitler now faces Great Britain—which may prove able to defend itself. But Britain is confronted with immense difficulties since it lacks continental bases, at least at the moment, from which to carry on an offensive war against Germany.

2. Hitler dominates continental Europe—always omitting possibilities of revolutionary outbursts in France and elsewhere. It is expected that Germany will, if possible, attempt an appeasement policy in reverse. Whereas English and French appeasement tried to buy off Hitler and turn him East against the Soviet Union, Hitler might now “appease” the French and British ruling-class fascists who will be expected to maintain order in the conquered or compromised countries while Germany prepares to consolidate its victories.

3. If Germany overcomes Great Britain, or makes a deal with the fascist-minded Fifth Column in the British ruling class, Germany menaces U. S. interests in Latin America. Moreover, the U. S. is in danger of being squeezed by Germany on one side, Japan (Germany's axis partner) on the other. The choice facing this country will be to “appease” Japan or to “appease” Germany (a costly process leading to a debacle similar to that which overwhelmed the British and French appeasers), or to draw closer to the only other powerful anti-Hitler force in the world, the Soviet Union. This means reversing Roosevelt's campaign to abridge democracy at home, his wish to force dollar imperialism down the throats of hemisphere nations. Appeasement it is further stated, would abandon American defenses against Nazism in Latin America, Japanese aggression in the Far East.

4. The Soviet Union, conscious of the new phase of the war in preparation (a victorious Germany also threatens to turn greedy eyes on the Ukraine) strengthened its defenses in the Baltic. Far from showing fear, as the press states, informed Washington observers admit, but not publicly, that the Soviet move shows confidence in the Red Army, Russian ability to defend the U. S. S. R.

5. Further, these same observers admit that the German-Soviet non-aggression pact was far from a failure. The Soviet Union is clearly neither surprised nor in a panic over Hitler's rapid victory, though of course not pleased. The pact was the Soviets' answer to the outbreak of war, made unavoidable by Chamberlain and Daladier. The pact, it is now seen, prevented the Soviet Union from bearing the brunt of appeasement, preserved peace in Eastern Europe, kept the Balkans out of war so far, kept the conflict to date from becoming a world war, put the Soviets in a stronger position in relation to Germany.

The Hemisphere Belongs to U. S.

President Vargas of Brazil left no doubt as to his fascist inclinations in his speech praising authoritarian government, it is now privately conceded in Washington. The State Department's pretense that Vargas didn't mean what he said is admittedly window dressing. While Vargas excused his speech as a sop to Nazi-minded supporters, his imposed censorship on mention of Nazi Fifth Column activities in South America matches his well-known intimate connections with Nazi spokesmen in Brazil.

Immediate U. S. concern, it is revealed in the authoritative publication, Hemisphere, centers in the eagerness of this country to get the Brazilian steel question settled without delay, particularly now that the Germans offer to deliver steel to South America by October at prices below those quoted in the U. S. Proposed is an RFC or Export-Import Bank loan of from \$10 million to \$17 million to the Brazilian government for an official steel corporation to exploit the immense 15 billion ton Brazilian reserve of high-grade iron ore. The U. S. Steel Corp. is also eager to operate in Brazil (without investment), but has so far failed to get the necessary legal and financial concessions from the Vargas government.

In a like manner, the Roosevelt “inner cabinet” plan of economic “defense” attests the desire to force American dollars on South America to obtain a com-

Another Smoke-Filled Room?

ROOM 907, Bellevue Statford Hotel in Philadelphia is headquarters of anti-Semitic Joseph N. Pew, Jr., Republican boss of Pennsylvania. Pew controls 72 votes, largest single convention unit since New York split. Pew favors Taft, though for the first ballot Penn delegates are pledged to dull, reactionary Governor Arthur H. James.

In 1920, Pennsylvania boss Boies Penrose helped dictate Harding's nomination. In 1928, Boss Vare of the same state clinched Hoover's chances. Now, with Republicans meeting in Pew's hometown, his voice is crucial.

Pew's insistence won Ernest T. Weir of National Steel the chairmanship of the GOP's vital finance committee. Former Senator George W. Pepper is a Pew man, with close ties to Morgan.

Also facts seem against those who think the GOP is no longer Wall Street's political tool. It's “peace” debate is too similar to Chamberlain appeasement to win confidence. Besides, critics ask, can peace be entrusted to the party which receives its major financial contributions from three Rockefeller, two Weirs, two Mellons, one DuPont, the Frick family, Alfred Sloane (General Motors), 57-varieties Heinz, Phillips (oil) of Oklahoma?

The Republicans are still known, in less polite circles, as the Grand Oil Party.

Stupidity or Treachery?

TO MAY 11, day after German invasion into the Low Countries which preceded the advance into France, the Allies had spent the startlingly low amount of \$250 million in this country. They had bought no tanks (not needed, they told American military men), only a few planes. But they insisted that the majority of these planes were not to be delivered, under any circumstances, before January, 1941.

When the German offensive overwhelmed the Allies, they clamored for tanks and planes. Neither was ready, because the Allied agents had insisted previously that the importance of tanks was exaggerated and the Allies wanted no more, that planes were unnecessary before the turn of the year.

Moral Embargo

THE Roosevelt administration, at the war's beginning, decided to give the Allies all help short of war. To do so meant to cut off German supplies. The decision was to stop supplies to the Soviet Union, though that nation declared that it was not transshipping to Germany.

Administration enthusiasts cancelled all permits for export of aviation gas-

plete U. S. economic monopoly in this hemisphere. This despite existing trade treaties between hemisphere nations and foreign countries, and despite U. S. reluctance (and inability) to absorb South American exports.

But it is being pointed out by administration dissidents to Roosevelt's imperialist policies that dollar diplomacy defeats its own ends. They quote the Wall Street Journal's admission that "a 100% insistence upon the Monroe Doctrine is apt to force us into defending nations that don't really want to be defended and will not aid us in the defense."

Administration critics comment: Perversion of the Good Neighbor policy into the high-handed intervention and strong-arm methods of the twenties threatens rather than bulwarks American defense. Fascists like Vargas are no more allies of democracy than French traitors Laval, Bonnet, Flandin were enemies of Hitler. Our defense, they say, must rest not on Roosevelt's present reactionary methods, but on the true anti-fascist forces which the administration is now exerting its greatest energy to wreck. Examples of such forces badgered by the U. S.: Cardenas in Mexico, People's Front in Chile, Batista groupings in Cuba, etc.

Betrayal: France, Spain, China, Americas

The Age of Treason, marked by the betrayals of the democracies by the Chamberlains, Daladiers, Bonnets, and Blums, now embraces France and threatens China.

The facts behind the history of betrayals are as usual falsified by the press, not necessarily by suppressing news—although this is done—not even necessarily by distorting and discoloring the news. Falsification by the press frequently lies in the choice of factual news, in the display of unimportant stories, in the publication of nonsense, as well as in slanting the headlines to favor one nation, or to protect some Cliveden Set.

When the newspapers publish on page one an endorsement of immediate entry into the war by an unimportant or propaganda-inspired group, and omit a declaration against entering war signed by 300 leading American writers, this choice of news stories constitutes falsification of the news.

For several years the American press (with few notable exceptions) has editorially, in perverted headlines, and in choice of items, supported the very groups, parties, classes and ruling cliques which have betrayed every democracy, and recently, but not finally, France.

Treason in Spain

One of the leaders of the American Youth Congress, who belongs to that group of 60 which recently held a conference with President Roosevelt, informs IN FACT that when charged with killing Spanish democracy through the enforcement of a neutrality act, the President admitted that "in this case he had made a mistake which he now regrets."

The President's confession is welcome though late. But the Hitler-lovers still remain strong in the State Department, even though the United States is threatening both dictators with war. They are the real Fifth Column.

It is not too late for President Roosevelt to save the 150,000 Spanish refugees in France, most of whom will be murdered by France and Hitler unless they can escape. They are more deserving than any people in the world today. Will Roosevelt act? If he sent ships to save the German and Spanish intellectuals from impending murder, he would bolster the defense of democracy.

And in China

The Chinese democracy has already been betrayed by the State Department, the administration, and the press. For many years our government has permitted our merchants of death to supply Japan with the implements of war.

A million Chinese have been killed by the Japanese; of these no less than 750,000 have been killed by American guns, American planes, American shrapnel. The same hysterical press which rose to a falsified fury over the death of two or three civilians accidentally killed in a Finnish town, has kept a hypocritical silence over the deaths of a thousand Chinese in each of many air raids. Mr. Hull of the State Department once sent a note.

Signs that the U. S., probably at the suggestion of its diplomatic dictator in international affairs, Downing Street, is doing a Far Eastern Munich are increasing:

A silver loan was denied China. The Chinese dollar has gone down to four cents. Speakers at the recent University of Virginia conference (four days after Roosevelt accused Mussolini of stabbing France in the back), said China's resistance depends largely on a silver loan. The administration takes no action.

Major General John F. O'Ryan, retired, who distinguished himself by his

oline to Russia. U. S. army experts claimed that the Soviets were unable to produce aviation gasoline, embargo would cripple the U. S. S. R., keep Germany from flying its planes.

German planes flew—on stocks previously stored. Soviet planes flew—on aviation gasoline provided by Russian refineries.

Out of curiosity, experts investigated amount of aviation gasoline exported to the Soviet Union throughout 1939 before the embargo. The exports for the year amounted to two barrels.

Speeding Up Defense

TO SPEED national defense, the War Department hurriedly summoned manufacturers of airplanes to Washington. The business leaders had their pictures taken with the President, with the Secretary of War. They then conferred. Asst. Sect. of War Johnson declared the need for 50,000 planes in the shortest possible time.

"What kind of planes?" he was asked by the assemblage. "How many light bombers, heavy bombers, dive bombers, pursuit ships, etc.? Each plant specializes, so we must know what the government needs."

Sect. Johnson was nonplussed. He did not know what the government needed.

But, Johnson said, he could find out. He telephoned headquarters of the Army's Planning Department. But the Chief of the department who was off for a brief vacation, was the only man who had an idea what the Army wanted.

The business leaders went home to await the return of the vacationing chief, to wait until the War Department had thought things over.

Suppressing the Pope

MANY Roman Catholics in the United States are not at all aware that Pope Pius XII has warned his 350 million followers against anti-Semitism. (If they are aware and still practice it, they are not good Catholics; Coughlin is the leading example.)

The reason many Catholics do not know of the warning is because certain Catholic newspapers suppressed or buried the Pope's declaration. Our authority for the foregoing statement is the Rev. Father Gillis of The Catholic World.

"I must confess," wrote Father Gillis, "my disappointment (the mildest word I can think of) at the fact that some Catholic newspapers here in the U. S. gave little space or none to the Holy Father's three addresses on anti-Semitism. . . . It is scandalous that Catholics in America have to learn from the secular press what the Pope has said on a matter of vast importance."

A Lie in Time

THE newsweekly Time's reports on Mexico have been both ignorant and biased in favor of the Standard Oil Company, Mexico's chief enemy. In the June 24th issue, reference to "communist C.T.M." is a typical Time lie about Mexico. The CTM is the big Mexican confederation of workers, but it is no more communist than a combined CIO-AF of L in the U. S. A. Twice a year, by law, magazines publish a list of owners. Time's list explains Time's unfairness.

Who Fakes the News?

A MUNITIONS scandal, surpassing most in the history of the merchants of death, was hushed in the press. In fact, its participants were praised, when the Administration gave old guns and ammunition to U. S. Steel to sell to the Allies.

World-Telegram said "the cost to the U. S. was \$200,000,000; the government will be credited with about \$50,000,000."

Times, next day: "originally costing about \$200,000,000, in return for a Federal Govt. credit of about \$400,000,000."

Wall Street Journal, col. 1, page 3, June 8, said government would be credited "with a \$25,000,000 to \$50,000,000 down payment on new orders."

Challenge to Newspapers

THE latest issue of Consumer Union Reports informs 85,000 members that the widely advertised Canada Dry and White Rock soda and ginger ale have not as much retention, carbonation, and other good features of unadvertised cheaper bottled waters and ginger ales. Newspapers and magazines, which make big money from carbonated beverages will not name better brands. They also refuse to accept Consumer Union advertising and so cannot claim to be honest publications.

Consumers Union is a non-profit-making organization; it tells the truth.

Among those refusing CU ads: New York Times, N. Y. Herald Tribune, Colliers, Saturday Evening Post, New Yorker, Esquire, Life, Newsweek.

Times Publishes News

ON page 12, column 4, June 10, the New York Times published 2 paragraphs under the heading: "Meet FTC Objections. Gimbel Brothers agree on the names of certain rugs." The item was the Federal Trade Commission's colorless release that Gimbels agreed to cease using oriental names for American rugs. What the Times did not state is that Gimbels had used false and misleading advertising and fooled the public, as have many other stores.

Unique, however, was the Times use of the FTC item in its news pages. For ten years we have searched Times columns, to find these items either suppressed or buried in commodity news or shipping news, page 30 to 40. We have challenged the Times to print FTC news as news and this is the first time it has done so.

The Press Spares Hearst

ONE of the greatest fraud actions in U. S. history, biggest involving a newspaper, which charged that stockholders had been mulcted of more than \$30,000,000, was tried last May and June in Superior Court, Los Angeles. The news was suppressed by at least 300 papers, including the New York Times, Herald Tribune, Post, World-Telegram, Mirror, News, Journal-American and Sun. (Please notify us if Chicago, Boston, California, etc. papers carried story.)

Press releases were sent 300 papers. If the Associated and United Press did not suppress the story, then their 2,000 dailies did. A San Francisco Chronicle editor declared that the story was marked "not for publication" by one of the news services.

The reason for the suppression: the story concerned W. R. Hearst, owner of

brutal treatment of strikers while police commissioner of New York City, has been sent on a mission to Japan and to Chinese territories seized by Japan. Before leaving, O'Ryan consulted with Roosevelt.

The Chicago Tribune and the New York Daily News, edited respectively by an outright jingo who has advocated war with Mexico for years and by Capt. Patterson who in 1937 wrote that China was licked because she did not have enough good soldiers, now are united in favoring a deal with Japan equal to the Munich settlement. If Japan won, it would build, they argue, a mainland empire and "with that empire we should do business. All the business we can, regardless of our disapproval of the way the land was acquired. . . ." To be on the safe side, the Daily News meanwhile clamors for two ships for Japan's one.

Pro-British Fifth Column

In the midst of the war hysteria which employs the term "Fifth Column" to smash the Wagner Act and other social gains by labor, Senators Rush D. Holt, Burton K. Wheeler, Ernest Lundeen and Gerald P. Nye, isolationists, have named as the British Fifth Column in America: Thomas W. Lamont, Lord Lothian, Henry L. Stimson, Lewis Douglass, Conant of Harvard and William Allen White.

Senators used the same list published by IN FACT in its first issue, headed "Sworn to Secrecy." The 18 pro-war men we named later became the leaders of the Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies. They inserted the "Stop Hitler Now" advertisement in the press. IN FACT had White's name, did not use it awaiting confirmation, loathe to believe he would ever be found in Big Money company preaching war.

The Role of the British Press Lords

In England, Lord Beaverbrook and Lord Rothermere, owners of the two biggest papers, supported the fascist axis. Rothermere's Daily Mail also backed Japan against China.

January 5, 1937, the London Evening News (Rothermere) said: "Our every national interest would urge us to the side on which Italy and Germany stand. As a Christian country, apart from anything else, we cannot allow the Red plague of atheism and revolution to camp on our doorstep." The reference was to Republican Spain, which was neither red nor atheistic, but popular front and Catholic, though somewhat anti-clerical.

J. L. Garvin, editor of the Observer, another reactionary, came out for Italy and Germany on January 3, 1937; on April 11 he praised Franco: "Franco is no reactionary. . . . He is a gentleman."

The Daily Mail sent a young Rightist, Randolph Churchill, son of the great Winston, to Spain to write propaganda for Franco.

The thundering Times first proposed the Munich sell-out.

The press lords as much as any other of the Cliveden elements are responsible for the betrayal of Britain.

One Reason France Lost

Although the newspapers never said so, newspaper men in Paris knew that the French did not want the war, entered it with misgivings rather than enthusiasm, and therefore could not fight.

In "The Strategy of Terror" just published, Edmond Taylor, former Chicago Tribune man in Paris, writes that when mobilization was decreed the people went around "with sick gray faces. . . . The idea of going to war in cold blood out of intellectual conviction against an enemy they don't hate seems so monstrous. . . . The vast majority answers the call to arms like somnambulists. . . . War has come. . . . Despair is on every face. . . . Hope has gone."

Compare these diary notes to the propaganda and falsehoods of the press.

The attack on the liberal and left wing by the Daladier-Reynaud governments—the men who had sold out other democracies and put the Spanish Loyalists in torture camps—helped undermine morale. The Fifth Column destroyed France: it was the real Fifth Column, the Right Wing.

"A Warning to America"

Both the CIO and AFL executive councils have issued warnings to the American people to resist certain legislation now before Congress. Enactment of any one of the bills listed below would seriously impair American democracy, say labor leaders, whose opinion on this question is shared by such prominent figures as Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, Senators Wheeler, Norris and Nye, Dr. Charles Beard, Upton Sinclair, Msgr. John Ryan, and others.

The danger comes from:

1. Sedition provisions which would strike out constitutional guarantees of free speech, free press, free assembly to all citizens and non-citizens alike (Smith, Dempsey, and Walsh measures).

2. Registration and fingerprinting of all non-citizens which would inevitably lead to registration and fingerprinting of all citizens (Reynolds Bill).

3. Amendments to the Wagner Act which would destroy labor's Magna Carta (Smith proposals).

4. Domestic passport system which would facilitate blacklists, vigilante terror, concentration camps (Hobbs and Stewart measures).

5. Denial of constitutional rights to minority parties, minority religious and racial groups—the first step toward persecution of Jews, Catholics, Negroes, foreign-born (Dies, Cox, and Ford bills).

6. Silencing trade unions, church and fraternal organizations on all political issues (Voorhis, Dempsey, and Smith bills).

In self-protection, the public is urged to write Congressmen and Senators, call protest meetings, write the local papers, etc.

IN FACT feels it is in good company when it forewarns its readers of such threats to the Bill of Rights.

Should Defense Mean Starvation?

The defense program so far promises even further reductions in living standards. Rather than maintain a reasonable work-week, many firms, of which the Vultee Aircraft in Los Angeles is a blatant example, have increased the average work day to 14 hours, seven days a week, with some men working as much as 18 hours in 24. The AFL Monthly Bulletin for June condemns such practices, points out that labor desires protection of "our rights as producing workers." It adds, "As long as the nation has a large surplus labor supply, production can be increased without lengthening the work week. . . . There are thousands of skilled workers either unemployed or not working at their trades who should have first chance to fill industry's need. . . . To lengthen hours with 10,000,000 unemployed would be to . . . preserve our unemployment."

Similarly, the CIO Economic Outlook for June, which estimates unemployment in April at 11,259,000, feels that the national defense program provides no basis for much increase in industrial production and therefore for anticipating substantial reduction in the number of unemployed. Such expenditures will not do more than offset losses in domestic business caused by events abroad. At best, the labor economists estimate, there will be employed 2 millions in the next six months, leaving 9¼ millions still without jobs. WPA provisions are so small, they stress, that 1,200,000 jobless will not be cared for at all. The CIO concludes: "The armament program as now set forth would not begin to utilize the enormous industrial capacity or the vast unused manpower available in the country. A real national defense program will have to include provision for the full and effective utilization of all such resources."

The Legion and the Constitution

In a radio address (June 10; WJZ; 8 p.m.) Commander Raymond J. Kelly sneered at people who speak for civil liberties and said he suspected "those who are now talking in favor of civil liberties are the very ones who will bear watching." Kelly encouraged Fifth Column witch-hunting.

Legionnaires, like other easily misled persons, are already leading in violations of civil liberties. In New York City they smashed an American Labor Party Club. American Legionnaires were instrumental in getting ordinances passed in McKeesport, Pa., suppressing free press and free speech. The CIO opposed them as unconstitutional; a Legionnaire named Rankin said "we want City Councils to pass these ordinances regardless of the Constitution."

30,000,000 AMERICANS CAN'T BE WRONG!

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18 papers, many A. P. franchises, and member of the publishers association despite evidence he has violated their code of ethics.

The complaint named Hearst, his three sons, Cousin E. H. Clark and John Francis Neylan, former attorney, and the man who organized the secret meeting of the San Francisco publishers which raised the red scare and broke the general strike of 1934.

The complaint charged a continuing series of fraudulent actions designed to mulct the Hearst Consolidated Publications from 1930 to date of more than \$30,000,000, and involves the Class A stock sold to the American public.

Fraud is charged in the following alleged transaction: Assets carried on Hearst books at \$38,000,000 were written up to \$75,000,000; Hearst received Consolidated stock valued at \$20,000,000 plus a \$45,000,000 note, paid him in cash from stock sales; later Hearst received \$65,000,000 in stock and cash for assets carried on his own books at \$36,000,000.

War and Profits

FIGURES released by large corporations show that sales in dollars in the first quarter of 1940, compared with the same period in 1939, increased enormously. United Aircraft did 60% more business this year than last, Douglass increased its business by 134%, Studebaker by 800%, General Motors by 26%, Chrysler by 35%, U. S. Steel by 2,500%, Republic Steel and Youngstown Steel by 480% each, Bethlehem by 350%, General Electric by 62%, Westinghouse by 72%.

Each of the above corporations are ardent supporters of "defense" measures, the larger the better.

Pay-triotism Preferred

CALIFORNIA'S Attorney General Earl Warren reports that the hounding of "Fifth Columns" has been turned into a profitable enterprise by fly-by-night espionage agencies. "Patriotic" organizations extract big fees from business men to protect them from imaginary Trojan horses.

To Subscribers

Five cents (coin or stamps) must accompany all changes of address.

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Special notice (for those who inquired as to the best method of mailing twenty-five cents in coin): Wrap the quarter well in newspaper and place in envelope with name and address.

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